From 1886 to 1889 the Russian steamer "Vitiaz," under The "Vitiaz." Makaroff, made a voyage round the world, during which Makaroff. valuable observations on the temperature and specific gravity of the waters of the North Pacific were made, and in 1890 Lebedinzest Russian scientists, notably Lebedinzeff and Andrusoff, investi- and Andrusoff gated the physical and biological conditions in the deep water Observations of the Black Sea.

In 1889 a German expedition on board the S.S. "National" The was despatched to the "National."

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North Atlantic, with the special object of studying the plankton (hence called the Plankton Ex- Plankton pedition) by improved Expedition. methods, under the direction of Hensen, who was accompanied by several other scientific men.

From 1890 till 1898 the Austrian steamer "Pola" made observa- The "Pola." tions in the Mediterranean and the Red Sea, the chemical work being in the hands of Natterer, who published Natterer. some interesting results.

In 1890 systematic observations in North Sea and adjacent waters were commenced by Swedish investigators under Otto Petters- o. Pettersson

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son and Gustav Ekman, important results as to temperature, and G. Ekman. salinity, alkalinity, currents, gases, and plankton being achieved, a summary of which was published by Pettersson in English.'

During the years 1893 to 1896 Nansen made his remarkable Nansen's drift drift on board the "Fram" across the North Polar Sea, during "Fram," which valuable oceanographical observations were taken, his soundings tending to prove that the position of the North Pole is occupied not by land but by a deep sea, as Murray had